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Schlesien's Industrie unter dem Einflusse der Caprivischen Handelspolitik, 1889-1900. By ARTHUR FRIEDRICH. Berlin: J. G. Cotta'sche Buchhandlung Nachfolger, 1902. 8vo, pp. 191.

DR. FRIEDRICH'S monograph is the forty-sixth volume of the *Münchener volkswirtschaftliche Studien*. The investigation is made to ascertain the effect upon the industry of Silesia of the treaties of 1891 and 1894 with Austria, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland, and Russia.

Silesia is particularly dependent upon her trade with foreign countries because of her isolation from the German commercial centers through long rail distances and an unsatisfactory water service, and her very close proximity to Russia and Austria. Producer of many articles in excess of her power to consume, the province registers very clearly the success or failure of commercial negotiations.

Dr. Friedrich's material consists chiefly of the *Reichstatistik*, which supplies comparatively little material for the single provinces, and the reports of numerous chambers of commerce. Much of the material comes therefore from interested parties—some interested in attacking the treaties because of small personal advantage; others desirous of remaining silent so as not to arouse competition. The evidence has been checked wherever possible.

The study is divided into four parts: investigating (1) the general status of trade and industry during the periods 1889-91, 1892-94, and 1895-1900; (2) the so-called *Montanindustrien*, i. e., the production of coal, iron, zinc, lead, and the smelting of various ores, and the machine industry; (3) the textile industry; (4) the sugar industry.

The treaties have been, on the whole, very beneficial. There can be no doubt about the increase of exports in the general iron industry, to be traced directly to the tariff concessions made in the conventions.

In the textile industry the results have been less striking. Austria granted only very small tariff reductions; Russia granted more liberal terms, based, however, upon her high duties; Italy gave only slight reductions; Belgium continued the *status quo*; and Switzerland raised her rates, though they are lower than the German import duties. Hence the chief advantage accruing to the Silesian textile industry was indirect, based upon the general impulse given to business through the treaties and the element of permanency introduced into commercial relations of the various states.

The crude methods of business and the labor conditions in the

textile industry of Silesia put her, moreover, at a disadvantage in competition for the export trade with the other German states. Dr. Friedrich emphasizes in this connection a very interesting fact growing out of the rapidly declining exports from Silesia to the United States. Within the period 1889-1900 there was a decrease in business with the United States from \$1,296,380 to \$350,733, to be partially ascribed to the tariff. Low wages seemed not to determine competitive ability as between the high-waged United States and the notably low-waged Silesia. Instead of considering the low wages an advantage to Silesia, as many have assumed, Dr. Friedrich sees in them a hindrance to technical and economic progress.

Silesia occupies the second place in the German sugar industry. The commercial treaties have had little influence in this field. During the period 1889-1900, the sugar development has been in striking contrast technically to the textile development, the number of factories increasing only slightly, their output however being doubled.

On the whole, then, it may be maintained that Silesia has benefited in two directions under the Caprivi commercial policy—(1) directly, due to favorable tariff rates; (2) indirectly, through the certainty introduced by the treaties. Dr. Friedrich's investigation becomes an argument for the continuance and improvement of the present policy.

J. H. C.

Die wirtschaftliche Entwicklung des Königreichs Württemberg mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der Handelsverträge. By DR. ALBERT BARTENS. Frankfort a. M.: E. Schnapper, 1901. 8vo, pp. viii+120.

Der Haushalt der Stadt Hildesheim, am Ende des 14. und in der ersten Hälfte des 15. Jahrhunderts. By PAUL HUBER. Leipzig, 1901. 8vo, pp. vi+148.

THE recent congressional elections in this country and the controversy over tariff revision, especially as seen in the states of the Northwest, make the modest brochure of Dr. Albert Bartens of unusual interest. The story he tells is of the trade and economic conditions in a minor state of a great empire, affected by the efforts of the latter to build up a world trade and an extensive industry. There is just enough similarity in the relations of the United States to Canada as compared with those